

To: Gunn, Gene[gunn.gene@epa.gov]; Hayes, Scott[Hayes.Scott@epa.gov]; Buchholz, Ken[Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov]; Williams, David (R7)[Williams.Dave@epa.gov]; Field, Jeff[Field.Jeff@epa.gov]; Engeman, Diana[Engeman.Diana@epa.gov]
Cc: Jackson, Robert W.[Jackson.Robertw@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Jaci[Ferguson.Jaci@epa.gov]
From: Peterson, Mary
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 4:20:52 PM
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

SUPR Managers,

Please note the direction from Administrator McCarthy below, and assess the impact on projects in your work units.

Please send information on impacted sites to Jaci and cc me by COB Friday, August 14.

Jaci – please compile the information and prepare a table showing the sites and work impacted.

On a broad scale, we will need to evaluate our projects to identify any potential vulnerabilities we have for this kind of release. I'm sure we will be having follow up discussions on this.

Mary P. Peterson, Director

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RESPONSE

REMEDIATION

REUSE

*"To safeguard the health of our communities for all generations,
we clean up contaminated lands."*

*"In a culture of teamwork and respect,
we are efficient, innovative, and fiscally responsible stewards of public trust."*

From: Hague, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:03 AM
To: Peterson, Mary; Weber, Rebecca; Cozad, David
Cc: Brincks, Mike
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Let me know how this may impact any work in R7, if at all.

Thanks.

Mark

From: Adm13McCarthy, Gina
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:51 AM
To: Blumenfeld, Jared; Curry, Ron; Enck, Judith; Garvin, Shawn; Hague, Mark; Hedman, Susan; McGrath, Shaun; McLerran, Dennis; McTeerToney, Heather; Spalding, Curt
Cc: Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy
Subject: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Good morning everyone,

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions.

If you have questions or wish to discuss a particular situation please reach out to Mathy.

Thank you.